

P-4154P1



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: **R. W. MARSH ET AL.**

Serial No.: **09/823,199** Art Unit: **1641**

Filed: **MAR. 30, 2001** Examiner: **A. Y. LAM**

For: **VARIABLE EXTENSION COMBINED SPINAL/  
EPIDURAL NEEDLE SET AND METHOD FOR ITS USE**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RECEIVED**

**RESPONSE**

**DEC 12 2003**

Dear Sir:

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

This is in response to the Office action dated June 17, 2003. Enclosed is a Petition for a three-month extension of time. A continuation application is being filed on date even herewith to continue prosecution of this case.

Respectfully submitted,

James J. Muntha  
Reg. No. 35,769

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James J. Muntha".

Becton Dickinson and Company  
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201-847-7160  
December 5, 2003  
#72865